

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. - 25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) ~~A Process for preparing the soluble, stable, and concentrated pharmaceutical compositions of ritonavir of claim 1~~ comprising 10% to 50% w/w of ritonavir comprising the following steps:

- (a2) dissolving 10% to 50% w/w of ritonavir in an excess amount of an alcoholic solvent of C₂-C₄, ~~under controlled at a temperature between 30°C and 45°C~~ to make a first mixture;
- (b2) eliminating solid particles from said first mixture by filtration;
- (c2) evaporating the alcoholic solvent from said the filtered first mixture under reduced pressure at ~~low~~ a temperature not higher than 40°C to about half of its initial concentration;
- (d2) adding to said the filtered and concentrated first mixture an alcoholic co-solvent in an amount ranging from 5% to 20% w/w, a medium chain mono/diglycerides mixture in an amount ranging from 20% to 40% w/w, an antioxidant in an amount ranging from 0.001% to 2% w/w, an emulsion-stabilizing agent in an amount up to 60% w/w and a polarity corrector in an amount up to 0.5% w/w to make a second mixture;
- (e2) removing the alcoholic solvent of step (a2) from said second mixture by distilling under reduced pressure to correct the weight of said second mixture until the remaining quantity of alcoholic solvent is between 5% and 20% w/w of the composition;
- (f2) adding to said the distilled second mixture a surfactant in an amount ranging from 0.1% to 20% w/w under continuous stirring, until ~~said surfactant added to said distilled~~ the second mixture becomes a clear solution, thereby obtaining a soluble, stable and concentrated ritonavir pharmaceutical composition; and
- (g2) correcting the final weight of said the pharmaceutical composition by adding the alcoholic solvent employed in the step (a2).

27. (Currently Amended) The process in accordance with claim 26, wherein the alcoholic solvent used in step (a2) is ethanol.

28. - 29. **(Canceled)**

30. **(Currently Amended)** The process in accordance with claim 26, wherein the co-solvent employed in step (d2) is propylene glycol.

31. **(Canceled)**

32. **(Currently Amended)** The process in accordance with claim 26, wherein the antioxidant employed in step (d2) is butylated hydroxy toluene or alpha-tocopherol.

33. **(Currently Amended)** The process in accordance with claim 26, wherein the emulsion-stabilizing agent employed in step (d2) is polyethylene glycol 400 (PEG 400).

34. **(Currently amended)** The process in accordance with claim 26, wherein the polarity corrector employed in step (d) is citric acid or ascorbic acid.

35. **(Currently amended)** The process in accordance with claim 26, wherein the surfactant employed in step (f) is polyethoxylated castor oil 35, polyethoxylated hydrogenated castor oil 40, and/or polysorbates 20, polysorbate 40, polysorbate 60, ~~or polysorbate~~ 80 or a mixture of at least two thereof.

36. **(Canceled)**

37. **(New)** A stable and soluble pharmaceutical composition prepared by the process of claim 26 comprising:

ritonavir in an amount ranging from 10% to 50% w/w of the final composition;

a mixture of alcoholic solvent and alcoholic co-solvent of C₂-C₄ in a total amount ranging from 10% to 30% w/w of the final composition;

a mixture of C₈-C₁₀ medium chain mono/diglycerides in an amount ranging from 20% to 40% w/w of the final composition;

a pharmaceutically suitable surfactant in an amount ranging from 0.1% to 20% w/w of the final composition;

an antioxidant in an amount ranging from 0.001% to 2.0% w/w of the final composition.

38. **(New)** The pharmaceutical composition in accordance with claim 37, which further comprises:

an emulsion -stabilizing agent in an amount ranging up to 60% w/w of the final composition;

a polarity corrector agent in an amount up to 0.5% of the final composition.

39. **(New)** The pharmaceutical composition in accordance with claim 37, comprising the alcoholic solvent in an amount ranging from 5.0% to 15% w/w of the final composition.

40. **(New)** The pharmaceutical composition in accordance with claim 37, comprising the alcoholic co-solvent in an amount ranging from 5.0% to 15% w/w of the final composition.

41. **(New)** The pharmaceutical composition in accordance with claim 37, wherein the alcoholic solvent is ethanol and the alcoholic co-solvent is propylene glycol.

42. **(New)** The pharmaceutical composition in accordance with claim 37, wherein the surfactant is polyethoxylated castor oil 35, polyethoxylated hydrogenated castor oil 40, polysorbate 20, polysorbate 40, polysorbate 60, polysorbate 80 or a mixture of at least two thereof.

43. **(New)** The pharmaceutical composition in accordance with claim 37, wherein the antioxidant is butylated hydroxy toluene or alpha-tocopherol.

44. **(New)** The pharmaceutical composition in accordance with claim 37, wherein the emulsion-stabilizing agent is polyethylene glycol 400 (PEG 400).

45. **(New)** The pharmaceutical composition in accordance with claim 38, wherein the polarity corrector agent is citric acid or ascorbic acid.